

REMARKS

Claims 1-16, 18, and 26-41 were pending. By virtue of this response, claims 1, 3-4, 9-10, 12-13, 18, 26, 28-29, 33-36, and 38-41 are amended, and claim 8 is cancelled. Therefore, claims 1-7, 9-16, 18, and 26-41 are presently pending. Amendment and cancellation of certain claims is not to be construed as a dedication to the public of any of the subject matter of the claims as previously presented. No new matter is added.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC §102

Claims 1-2, 10-11, 26-27, 34-37, and 40-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Hong (U.S. Patent No.: 6,999,634; hereinafter “Hong”).

In response, claim 1 has been amended. Claim 1 recites, among other things, the following:

Claim 1: A method for noise variance estimation of a detected signal, the method comprising:

receiving a wireless signal and producing, from an input of the received wireless signal to a detector, a detected signal, wherein the detected signal is an output from the detector;

producing, from the received wireless signal, a first noise variance signal representative of noise variance in the received wireless signal; and

producing, from the detected signal and the first noise variance signal, a second noise variance signal representative of noise variance estimation of the detector in the received signal.

(Emphasis added).

In other words, the noise variance of the detector of the received wireless signal is estimated based in part on the noise variance of wireless signal input into the detector. For support, see paragraph [0043] of the publication of the application, for example.

In contrast, Hong discloses filtering an image signal with a “spatio-temporal joint filter” and a “spatial joint filter” for noise reduction in the image signal. (Abstract).

Thus, Hong at least fails to disclose or suggest “receiving a wireless signal and producing, from an input of the received wireless signal to a detector, a detected signal, wherein the detected signal is an output from the detector.” (Emphasis added).

Furthermore, as the Examiner suggests, even if the “temporal joint noise reduction filter” (element 500, Figure 3) is analogized to the “detector,” then both $f_s(t)$ and (σ_f^2, σ_n^2) are inputs to the “temporal joint noise reduction filter.” (Figure 3). Thus, both $f_s(t)$ and (σ_f^2, σ_n^2) would be analogized to “received wireless signals.”

Therefore, Hong would fail to disclose or suggest “receiving a wireless signal and producing, from an input of the received wireless signal to a detector, a detected signal, wherein the detected signal is an output from the detector.” (Emphasis added).

Moreover, even if the “space joint noise reduction filter” (element 300, Figure 3) is analogized to the “detector,” then Hong discloses using the filtered signal $f_s(t)$ from the “space joint noise reduction filter”, and filtering it a second time to generate $f_0(t)$. (Figure 3, Col. 5, lines 59-62). In other words, any determined noise variance of Hong is noise variance of the received image signal before being input to the filters.

Thus, Hong would fail to disclose or suggest “producing, from the detected signal and the first noise variance signal, a second noise variance signal representative of noise variance estimation of the detector in the received signal.” (Emphasis added)

Independent claims 10, 26, 34-36, and 40-41 are amended similarly to claim 1. Therefore, for at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits claims 1, 10, 26, 34-36, and 40-41 are allowable over Hong.

Therefore, for at least the reason that each depends from an allowable base claim, Applicant respectfully submits claims 2, 11, 27, and 37 are allowable over Hong. Accordingly,

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-2, 10-11, 26-27, 34-37, and 40-41.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC §103

Claims 3, 12, 28, and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Hong as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Hwang et al., (U.S. Patent No.: 7,440,524 B2; hereinafter “Hwang”).

Hwang fails to cure the deficiencies of Hong. Thus, for at least the reason that each claim depends from an allowable base claim, Applicant respectfully submits claims 3, 12, 28, and 38 are allowable over Hong and Hwang. Accordingly, Applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of claims 3, 12, 28, and 38.

Claims 4-9, 13-16, 18, 29-33 and 39 are under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Hong and Hwang, and further in view of Zhengdi et al. (U.S. Patent No.: 6,956,888; hereinafter “Zhengdi”).

Claim 8 has been cancelled. Thus, the rejection to claim 8 is now moot.

Zhengdi fails to cure the deficiencies of Hong and Hwang. Therefore, for at least the reason that each claim depends from an allowable base claim, Applicant respectfully submits claims 4-7, 9, 13-16, 18, 29-33 and 39 are allowable over Hong, Hwang, and Zhengdi. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of claims 4-7, 9, 13-16, 18, 29-33 and 39.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No.: 03-1952** referencing **Docket No.: 562492006600**. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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